Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05846 281654Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05
SP-02 L-03 H-01 /056 W
----------282113Z 031248 /73
P 281600Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6794

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5846

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: US, UR, EAIR
SUBJECT: US-USSR CIVIL AIR RELATIONS

REFS: (A) STATE 95141, (B) MOSCOW 5675

1. E/C COUNSELOR ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF CALLED ON TRIFONOV, COUNSELOR, USA DIVISION, MFA, ON APRIL 28 TO REITERATE USG POSITION REGARDING SCHEDULED SERVICES, CHARTERS AND TICKETING RESTRICTUIONS AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL A. E/C COUNSELOR NOTED MAY 1 APPROACHING. IN LIGHT OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN HEARING INDIRECTLY ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF DISAPPROVAL OF MAY CHARTERS, WE WANTED TO ASSURE OURSELVES MFA WAS FULLY AWARE THAT US WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE PRESENT STATUS QUO LEVEL OF TWO FREQUENCIES PER WEEK IS CONTINGENT ON SOVIET APPROVAL OF CHARTERS. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IN PRACTICAL TERMS WE ARE ONLY TALKING ABOUT THE MAY CHARTER PROGRAM FOR PAN AM WHEREAS THE FREQUENCY ISSUE HAS LONGER-TERM RAMIFICATIONS. E/C COUNSELOR THEN HANDED TRIFONOV A NON-PAPER CONTAINING ABOVE POINTS.

2. TRIFONOV, WHO APPARENTLY WAS UNAWARE OF THE LATEST AEROFLOT DEMANDS FOR EXTRA SECTIONS THIS SUMMER, REFTEL B, RESPONDED THAT THE ISSUES RAISED IN OUR NON-PAPER WERE COMMERCIAL AND SHOULD BE DECIDED BY THE TWO AIRLINES. HE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05846 281654Z

WASN'T PREPARED TO DISCUSS OUR PAPER AS HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS, BUT SAID HE HAD HEARD THE PASSENGER CARRIAGE IMBALANCE HAS NOW SHIFTED AGAINST AEROFLOT. HE REITERATED SOVIET DESIRE TO EXPAND AIR SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE SOVIET INTERPRETATION OF THE STATUS QUO IN SCHEDULED FREQUENCIES, AS DISCUSSED DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. AND HE SAID IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THE USSR RECEIVED THE RIGHT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

TO SERVICE WASHINGTON IN RETURN FOR PAN AM OBTAINING RIGHTS
IN LENINGRAD.

3. E/C COUNSELOR RESPONDED THAT OUR POSITION ON THE MEANING
OF THE STATUS QUO WAS DEFINITIVELY SET DOWN IN OUR NOTE OF
APRIL 4. HE AGREED THAT THE MATTERS IN DISPUTE ARE
PRIMARILY COMMERCIAL, BUT THERE ARE CONCRETE MATTERS OF
INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONCERN ON WHICH THE TWO SIDES MUST
SET THE FRAMEWORK. HE NOTED THAT THE ACTUAL TRADE-OFF IN
1973 WAS THE WASHINGTON RIGHTS FOR THE CHARTER UNDERSTANDING.
AEROFLOT REQUESTS NOW FOR EXTRA SECTIONS WERE THE EQUIVALENT
OF AN EXTRA WEEKLY FREQUENCY. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THE USG
AND PAN AM ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER EACH REQUEST ON A
CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. TRIFONOV THEN ASKED WHETHER THIS
MEANT THESE REQUESTS MIGHT BE APPROVED. E/C COUNSELOR
REPLIED THAT HE COULD MAKE NO PROMISE BUT THERE IS THE
POSSIBILITY SOME REQUESTS COULD BE APPROVED. NOTHING,
HOWEVER, WOULD HAPPEN IF THE CHARTERS WERE KILLED.
COUNSELOR ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO FACT THAT INTOURIST HAD
FINANCIAL STAKE IN APPROVAL OF MAY CHARTERS.

4. TRIFONOV ENDED BY AGREEING THAT FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS
ON GENERAL QUESTIONS WERE NECESSARY. HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE
OUR NON-PAPER AND EXPLANATIONS TO CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS
AND SAID THAT MFA WOULD ALSO CONSIDER THEM.

5. COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
MAY NOT BE KEEPING MFA FULLY INFORMED OF LATEST DEMANDS.
IF THIS IS THE CASE, THE MEETING MAY HAVE BEEN USEFUL TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 05846 281654Z

POINT OUT TO MFA THE SERIOUS SITUATION THAT IS DEVELOPING
AND THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COSTS OF CANCELLING THE
CHARTERS. LOCAL PAN AM REP THINKS SOVIETS ARE BLUFFING,
BUT HE IS NEVERTHELESS MAKING CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR RAIL
EVACUATION OF APRIL CHARTER GROUPS STILL IN USSR. TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW05846
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770149-0127
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770410/aaaaahqg.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 19deb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 95141, 77 MOSCOW 5675
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2659156
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR CIVIL AIR RELATIONS
TAGS: EAIR, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/19deb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009